



Student Senate presidential elections



*"Student Senate"
article
on page 3*

Student Senate members at a recent meeting.

Luke Yang

WEEKLY Scan

A preview of this week's top news and more

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Campus Safety Report

Friday, February 11, 2022
• Campus Safety was called to Schafer Fine Arts building for a medical assist for an employee.

Saturday, February 12, 2022
• Campus Safety was radioed for a medical assist in Lund center. A male fell down the bleacher seating area, and was transported

by ambulance to River Edge hospital.

Sunday, February 13, 2022
• While conducting a routine patrol of Uhler Hall Campus Safety discovered an alcohol violation.

Thursday, February 17, 2022

- Campus Safety responded to Pittman Hall for a welfare check.

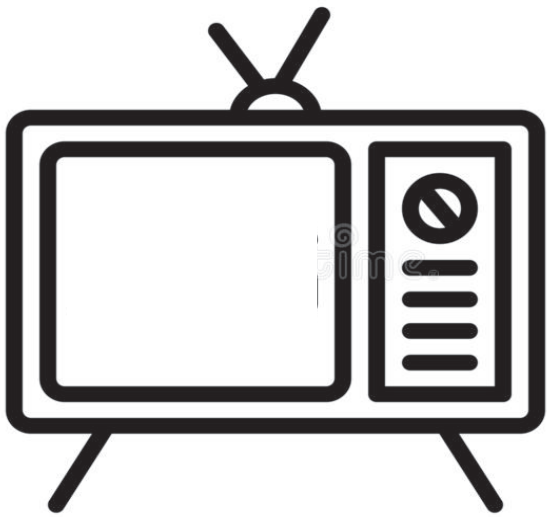
Tip of the Week:
Run, Hide, Fight...Do you know what it means?

Run, Hide, Fight, is a national campaign that Gustavus uses in providing notification during an active threat situation on campus. Basically the run part

is that your first option is to get away, get as far away from the threat as you can. Second, if you can't, then you hide. You barricade yourself wherever you are. You often see the words shelter in place, when it comes to the hide element. You shelter in place to try and keep yourself away from that threat. The last is if you

just have no other option, that you can use your mental and physical capacities to defend yourself. That as a last resort to save your life, there may be a need to fight. For more information about using Run, Hide, Fight in an active threat situation, watch the short video posted on the Campus Safety website in

Are you interested in placing an ad in *The Weekly*?

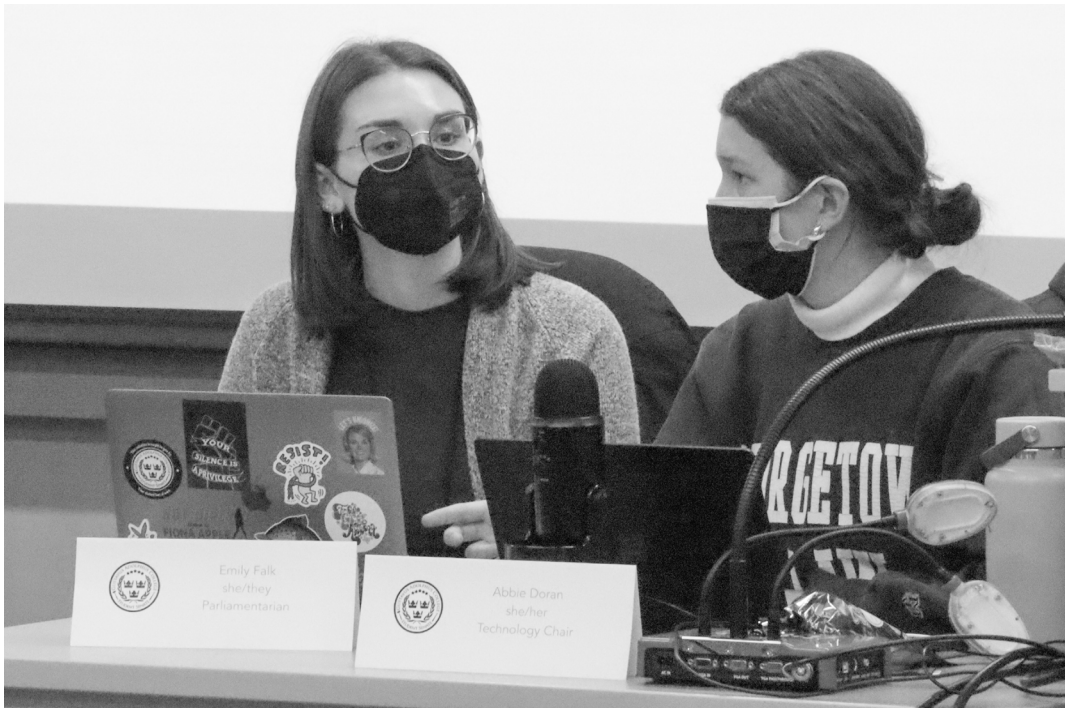


Contact our ad manager
admanager@gustavus.edu

Daily Sabbath Calendar

Prayer around the Cross-Mondays (Christ Chapel)
Gather to pause for reflection, music, lighting candles, and prayer.
Chapel and Chill-Tuesdays (Christ Chapel)
Meet in Christ Chapel for a coffee bar and easy going conversation (or not).
Morning Praise-Wednesdays (Christ Chapel)
Join together with Gustavus Choirs to sing the Morning Praise liturgy.
Holy Communion-Thursdays (Christ Chapel)
A brief service of song, readings, and Holy Communion.
Musical Showcase-Fridays (Christ Chapel)
CAB Calendar:
Black History Gospel Hour, February 25th at the CIE, 3:15 p.m.

Student Senate presidential elections approach



Student Senate members Emily Falk and Abbie Doran at a recent Student Senate meeting. Luke Yang

Mel Pardock
Staff Writer

On Monday, February 28, Student Senate elections are taking place. There are two groups running for the positions of Co-Presidents - Senators Ben Forsberg and McKenzie Alders, and Ombudsperson Birgen Nelson and Former Administrative Director Delaney Bluhm. Both groups have their own ideas about how to make Gustavus a better place and serve the GAC community, and have their own purposes for running for Co-President.

Student Senate positions are ones that require a great amount of responsibility and dedication. The President has an especially essential role in the operation of the Student Senate. Each candidate has their platform and different things they wish to do as Co-President, as well as their own ideas to help Gusties.

"Student Senate positions are ones that require a great amount of responsibility and dedication. The President has an especially essential role in the operation of the Student Senate"

"The Co-President position is a huge leadership responsibility that has a significant impact on the functions of the Student Senate and, subsequently, on the well-being of the student body. Senator Alders and I are running for this position on a platform of approachability. We believe it is our duty to lead with empathy — to make all students comfortable bringing their concerns and ideas to the Student Senate. We believe it is important that every student has a voice on campus," Co-President candidate Ben Forsberg said.

"Senator Alders and I are running on a platform of approachability. We believe it is our duty to lead with empathy- to make all students comfortable with bringing their concerns and ideas to the Student Senate... it is important that every student has a voice on campus"

Platforms differ from campaign to campaign.

"I am running for Student Senate Co-President because I want to give students a voice during difficult times. Delaney and I realize that students are tired and need help. Students need backing and their ideas made into reality. Delaney and I, through our years in Student Senate as well as with our other involvements, have experience implementing real, tangible aid and necessities for students. We have spent years listening to and working for students," Co-President candidate Birgen-Nelson said.

While being Co-President entails much responsibility and a lot of decision making, such as selecting members of the executive board, running Senate meetings, working with the Board, and overseeing a hefty budget, it also provides the person in the position with many opportunities and the funding to make Gustavus a great place for students, as well as the ability to inform Gusties of how their resources are being put to use.

"Our goals are to help facilitate transparency between students and the Gustavus Administration, increase practice aid to students, and foster a social-justice oriented campus community. We promise to hold office hours at least once a week in the Gustie Den to hear student concerns and send

updates to the Student Body on the progress we have made. Furthermore, we would like to amplify the voices of student groups on campus within the Senate Body. We will create two delegate positions- one for Student Athletes and one for students involved in Fine Arts at Gustavus," Nelson said.

"Our goals are to help facilitate transparency between students and the Gustavus Administration, increase practice aid to students, and foster a social-justice oriented campus community... we would like to amplify the voices of student groups on campus"

While all people on the Student Senate as well as those running for positions make it their priority to help and inform Gusties, each campaign has different overall goals.

"Through this position I would hope to better educate the student body about the

happenings of the Senate. The Student Senate is in charge of a very large sum of money that is accumulated through the student government fees that every student at Gustavus pays as part of tuition, I think that more needs to be done to ensure the student body is aware of where their money is going and what they can do to become more involved in how it is spent," Co-President candidate McKenzie Alders said.

It's all up to you now, Gusties. Get out there and vote on Monday! Your future is in your hands.



The Student Senate gavel. Luke Yang

Spring Involvement Fair brings new interest in campus organizations



Students walk around at the spring Involvement Fair.

Luke Yang

Colin Maiwurm
Staff Writer

As the spring semester begins, the chaos of finding classes and getting back into a groove consumes everyone's time. As the fourth week of the semester comes around, everyone is starting to find their groove. With this fourth week also comes an abundance of opportunities at the involvement fair. As this is a popular and large event, we decided to interview the Assistant Director of Campus Activities in order to enlighten everyone about what the Involvement Fair is.

"The Involvement Fair is a semesterly event that gives students the opportunity to get a feel for all of the opportunities to get involved on campus through student organizations and departments. I would highly recommend that anyone looking to get involved on campus check out the Involvement Fair," Garrett Meier, the Assistant Director of Campus Activities, said.

The Involvement Fair usually consists of a plentitude of clubs and organizations with representatives at each table. On arrival at one of these tables, these representatives will be eager to talk and get to know you. There is no pressure to join any of the clubs while at the fair. There will be a sign up sheet at each table for those who have already decided to join the club, and all of the clubs will give you some way to contact them if you are uncertain about joining.

"This event is the only event where a large majority of the Gustavus student organiza-

tions are all in one place at the same time. This gives Gusties the chance to "shop" through all of their options and decide how they can get involved on campus with things they are interested in and passionate about," Meier said.

Meier touched on the importance of having two Involvement Fairs, one in spring and one in fall. "Both fall and spring involvement fairs happen right away during the second week of classes. I believe each of these fairs plays a big role in helping students find ways to pursue their interests and passions. This allows students to find others who have a mutual interest in these passions and begin building connections and communities," Meier said.

"The Involvement Fair is a semesterly event that gives students the opportunity to get a feel for all of the opportunities on campus through student organizations and departments"

While knowing the significance of the Involvement Fair, more questions form dealing with the clubs. Not all clubs last all year round, some only last for the semester or for a certain season. While there were over 100 clubs and organizations promoting themselves during the fall semester's Involvement Fair, there will only be around seventy clubs and organizations presenting themselves for

this year's spring Involvement Fair. The decrease in clubs tends to come from the inability to partake in outdoor events due to weather conditions.

Meier then touched on how a club is formed and how they function. "A club can be started with 6 student members, one full time Gustavus faculty or staff member, and a constitution. Clubs should be fully run by students. Advisors are there to advise, not run the organization. If they were in charge they would be called supervisors not advisors. With that being said a good advisor knows what the group is up to and communicates regularly with their organizations. Student orgs should use their advisor when they have questions or need help with something. That is what they are there for," Meier said.

While clubs can be made relatively easily, they must also be filled with responsible lead-

ing members. Multiple sport clubs play games and have tournaments with other sport clubs from different colleges. Due to this, there tends to be costs that are required for the club to partake in such events.

"Both fall and spring involvement fairs happen right away during the second week of classes. I believe each of these fairs plays a big role in helping students pursue their interests and passions"

Due to this, clubs can apply for funding through the Student Senate. Like Meier stated previ-

ously, a staff member from the college is only involved if the students in the club need to aid. Clubs are primarily run by fellow students.

This is why the student leaders are the representatives at the Involvement Fair. From recalls of previous years, there have tended to be a large quantity of students that show up to preview all of the different clubs and talk to the representatives. The types of clubs range from sporting clubs like ultimate frisbee, to clubs with a little less physical activity like the game club, to even groups like the Gustavian Weekly who are trying to interest students in job opportunities. Spring semester's involvement fair was held 5pm to 7pm. on Wednesday, February 23 in the Campus Center banquet rooms.



The LineUs Improv group's table draws attention at the spring Involvement Fair.

Luke Yang

Soulful Tunes: Black History Gospel Hour

Emma Esteb
Staff Writer

The Center for Inclusive Excellence is partnering with the Campus Activities Board to host the Black History Gospel Hour. The event will feature the five time #1 Artist on Billboard as seen on BET, Jovonta Patton from Minneapolis. The Center will host this event in the CIE at 3:15 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 25.

This is an opportunity to hear uplifting Gospel music while also enjoying free food and fellowship. In honor of Black History Month, this event is a perfect way for students to be immersed in the culture. Guest singer, Patton (instagram: @jovontapatton), was born and raised in Minneapolis, MN and is deeply rooted in the modern gospel tradition.

"This is an opportunity to hear uplifting Gospel music while also enjoying free food and fellowship. In honor of Black History Month, this event is a perfect way for students to be immersed in the culture."

He regularly attended church as a child which is where he gained a passion for worship and a strong interest in gospel music, according to Jovonta. Patton is an ordained minister and started the Pop Up Church trend called "The Wave." He has a new single out called "I Can" that is now available to stream on Spotify.

Assistant Director for the Center of Inclusive Excellence, Kareem Watts wanted to do this event in order to "bring something different to campus as there has never been a Black Gospel artist who has performed at Gustavus," Watts said. Gospel music represents triumph, pain, and struggle which are vital themes within African American culture and are important to represent during this month. Gospel music is a part of Black culture and Sunday Church service.

The Gospel music genre has been around since the 17th century where hymns and sacred songs were often repeated in a call and response fashion. Watts said he "actually grew up listening to Gospel hymns, contemporary worship, and rhythm and praise (R & P) music which God used to inspire me to write Gospel centered rap songs and poetry over the past 22 years." Watts wants to reach out to the entire Gustavus community during this month, but especially to the African

The Center for Inclusive Excellence in Partnership with CAB Presents

Black History Gospel Hour

FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 25TH @ 3:15PM
AT THE C.I.E



I Can
@jovontapatton

01.26 ————— 04.22



Enjoy **FREE** food, drinks, and the soulful sounds of Jovonta Patton from Minneapolis
(5 times #1 Artist on Billboard As seen on BET)

Poster for Black Gospel

Gustavus CAB Instagram

American students on campus.

The goal of this event is to inspire and give people hope through music. The CIE and CAB are working together to bring more unity on campus. The interactive aspect of Gospel music will hopefully fill the CIE with dancing, movement, clapping, and excitement.

"The interactive aspect of Gospel music will hopefully fill the CIE with dancing, movement, clapping, and excitement."

The success of the Lyrical Cafés that have happened throughout the year were help-

ful kickstarts to this event.

CAB Cultural and Diversity Executive, Ella Peterson reached out to Watts and the CIE in order to help co-host this event. In this position, one of Peterson's main goals is to seek out collaborations with other organizations, especially in regards to diversity. She wanted to be involved during Black History Month and was excited to work with Watts again after helping him with the Humanize my Hoodie event last semester.

This is an opportunity for CAB as they are able to play a supporting role for this event. One of their goals is to "provide a fun space for students to listen to good music, have some good food, and learn about black history while highlighting black excellence." They want to create a space where people feel valued and welcomed at Gustavus.

With the event taking place in the CIE, both CAB and the members of the CIE want to accentuate the fun space and be surrounded by a big group of people while still emphasizing and centering the experience on Black History Month. Peterson was excited "to have Patton perform since he is a Minnesota native and to have an event centered around Black history and highlighting their experience towards the end of the month of February," Peterson said.

The Black History Gospel Hour is a unique event that has never been done before at Gustavus. The special guest of Jovonta Patton sets the stage for portraying the Black experiences and highlighting an important part of Black history.

In order to stay engaged and aware of the events happening in the CIE, follow them

on instagram @gustavus_the-center. Watts said he would love to have Patton back on campus and conduct events similar to this one in order to highlight different cultures.

GUSTIE of the WEEK

Regina Olono Vidales

Emma Kelsey
Staff Writer

Gustie of the Week, Senior Regina Olono Vidales, has made her mark here on the hill. A Political Science major with minors in Public Health and Peace Studies, her passions extend beyond academics into other aspects at Gustavus.

Vidales is a committed member of the Student Senate and Ignite here on campus. She finds it incredibly gratifying to be a part of orgs that are persistently making a difference for Gustavus students. Vidales speaks on the importance of the student senate, sharing that “We are constantly passing legislation that helps the student body. We are always looking for ways to include the student voice in whatever we do,” Vidales said.

“Vidales speaks on the importance of the student senate, sharing that “We are constantly passing legislation that helps the student body. We are always looking for ways to include the student voice...”

She adds that it is especially valuable to her since she knows on a personal level how difficult it is to be heard as a student within an academic institution like Gustavus at times.

Furthermore, she speaks on her passion for Ignite, an org that strives to educate women on their political power and assist them with resources including networking, voter education, and other opportunities. This org also has a special place in Vidales’s heart; she says that it focuses on bringing opportunities and guidance to women of color. “...it is important to me because as a woman of color at a PWI I know how difficult it can be to navigate school and job opportunities without guidance from people that look like me,” Vidales said.

“...bringing opportunities and guidance to women of color. “...it is important to me because as a woman of color at a PWI I know how difficult it can be to navigate school and job opportunities without guidance from people that look like me.”

Beyond her pursuits in academics and student organizations, Vidales expresses that her favorite part of Gustavus is its community. Meeting people through her classes, orgs, and activities she has been a part of, has led her to meet the people that have influenced her life and experience here in such a positive way. She believes that her experience here “would not have been as fulfilling” had she not met those people now in her life today.

Not only does she see the Gustavus community as having an impact in her own life, but as an influence that can bring about change in other areas. “It truly is beautiful to see how we can all gather together to work on issues that are important to us,” Vidales said.

As a senior, Vidales reflects on this last year on the hill as being far from normal, with students transitioning back to (mostly) in-person classes and activities. She believes this transition has brought not only a source of normalcy, but also one of burnout. Despite these challenges, Vidales says it has been “amazing” for her to have one last somewhat-normal year here at Gustavus. She believes that while the Gustie community has had many difficulties to face this year, those same challenges led to us becoming closer to one another.



Jayne Mapstone

GOW Regina Olono.

Do you have a suggestion for a Gustavus student, professor, or staff member who could be our next Gustie of the Week?

If so, send their name, position on campus, and a short description of why you think they should be recognized to weekly@gustavus.edu for a chance to be featured!

A representative from the Gustavian Weekly will be in contact with you via email if your suggestion is chosen to be featured in an issue of the paper.



GOW Regina Olono.

Jayne Mapstone

36th Annual President's Ball



Blast From the Past: Photos from President's Balls in 1995, 2010, 2013, 2014.

Gustavian Weekly Archives

Emily VanGorder
Editor-in-Chief

The 36th annual President's Ball is being held this from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, February 26 at the Mayo Clinic Event Center in Mankato. The event includes a social hour, dinner, and dancing with music provided by the Bluewater Kings cover band, as well as a photo booth and cash bar.

This year's ball was planned around an aurora borealis theme. "My co-executive, Claire Lind, and I... brainstormed theme ideas once we were heading back to campus after seeing the Mayo Clinic Event site. We listed a bunch, looked up some things, and brought that list back to our advisor. We thought that the aurora borealis would be the best one, something we could play off" Sophomore and Co-Executive of the CAB Emma Ericson said. The theme greatly influenced event decorations, which will incorporate the colors of the Northern lights with a woodland theme.

Planning for this year's President's Ball began last November. The last President's Ball was held in 2018. After being canceled in 2019 due to the polar vortex, the ball was canceled twice in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19. "It's been a long

process of figuring out what to do, what the President's Ball is all about.. It was a little hard because no one on our board has been to [a President's Ball] besides our advisor," Ericson said.

"I'm excited because no student on campus has had this experience before. The seniors have had three cancellations over the years," Senior Korinna Hylen said.

"I'm excited because no student on campus has had this experience before. The seniors have had three cancellations over the years."

Ericson and Lind had to plan the event while considering the impact COVID-19 would have on regulations and attendance. "It's always been in the back of our minds, what's going to happen... We always stuck to our plan of having people wear masks and make sure they're still following proper protocols and the protocols our college has set in place" Ericson said.

Ericson and Lind connected with chair of the campus COVID-19 response leadership team Barb Larson Taylor to review

regulations and make sure that busing to and from the event could still take place.

"I'm happy my friends and I get to experience at least one President's ball in our four years here" Senior Gillian Duncan said.

Coach buses will be provided by the Gray Line transportation service to transport students to and from the Mayo Clinic Event Center.

The live music provided by the Bluewater Kings cover band has been heard at past President's Balls, and was chosen again this year to appreciate the ability to hear live music. "We were deciding on whether we wanted a DJ or a live band. We were leaning toward a live band because we thought that it would be cooler for everyone [and] bring back that experience of live sound, especially after so many years of not having these kinds of events" Ericson said.

"We've always stuck by our plan of having people wear masks and make sure they're following proper protocols and the protocols

our college has set in place."

This year's \$15 ticket fee, with an optional additional \$5 bus ticket fee, is cheaper than in previous years. Revenue goes towards paying for a \$25 meal, provided by Najwa's Catering, as well as decorations and the fees to book the venue, music, and buses. "We did \$15 this year because we thought it would pull people in who weren't sure if they wanted to attend... We wanted to host this event too because the freshman and sophomore class never got a senior prom, so we really wanted to bring it back this year to give them that opportunity. The upper classes never really had the chance to go to this either, so I think it [benefits] all students" Ericson said.

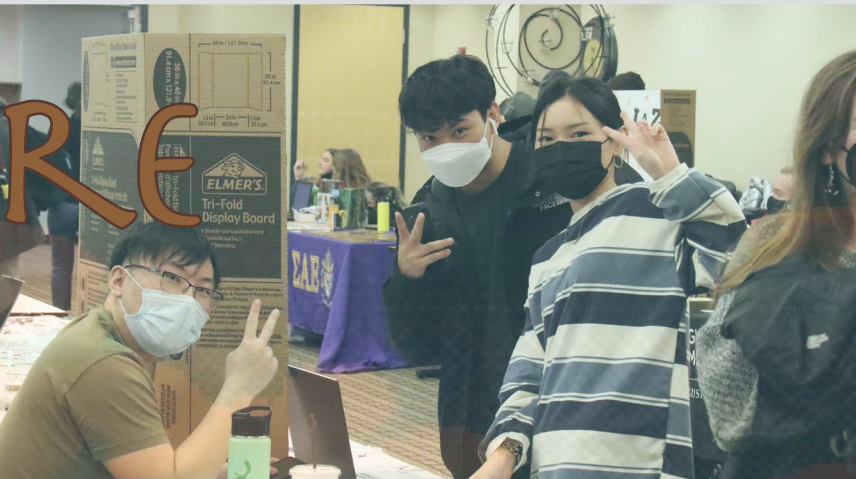
"We wanted to host this event too because the freshman and sophomore class never really got a senior prom... the upper classes never really had the chance

to go to this either, so I think it [benefits] all students."

"My co-executive and I worked together really well to figure out issues we've had come up... I'm excited to see it all... the decorations, and to see everyone come to the event as well," Ericson said.

"I'm most excited to have this experience with the friends I've made over the past four years and reflect on my undergraduate career as it comes to an end" Senior

Ashleigh Metcalf said.



CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

JOIN A GUSTAVUS STUDENT ORG!

Investment Club

Learn everything you need to know about investing
Meets Tuesdays 4:30-5:30 in Beck 201

Finance Club

Financial literacy
Apply to enter

Gustavian Figure Skating Club

For everyone from beginners to advanced skaters
Email ebarret4@gustavus.edu for more information

Gustavus Yearbook

For the first time in three years
Email ebarret4@gustavus.edu for more information

Proclaim

Non-Denominational Christian organization where everyone is welcome
Tuesday Worshipers

GYO

Bible camp on wheels
Spend time with youth and learn about God

Psych Social Justice League

Learn about current psychological studies on social justice topics
Now open to all Majors

Gustavus Club Tennis

Open to all levels
Practices in the tennis bubble Sundays at 9pm

German Club

New this year
Learn about German culture

Russian Club

Russian culture, events and films
Come visit during Russian Tea times

Community Center Buddies

Returning this year
Contact Amy Pehrson at apehrson@gustavus.edu for more information

Viking Society

Come learn about Scandinavian culture and eat food
Fika every Thursday at Swedish House (attached to IC) 8:30pm-10pm

Sauna Society

Hoping to return to the sauna soon
Contact Leif Hammarat lhammar@gustavus.edu for more information

KGSM Radio Club

Want to make your own podcast?
Studio in Beck

Queers and Allies

"Come as you are"
Here to bring people together

Anime Club

Watch anime in a chill environment with others
Wednesday and Saturdays
Includes trigger warning to create a safe environment for everyone

Delta Phi Omega

A supportive environment to hang out with others
Philanthropy for Breast Cancer Awareness

Page Turners

Focus on one book a semester
Meets once a week to hang out and talk about books

Newman Center

Catholic Organization
Bible study, daily rosary, and church services

Fourth Crown

Satirical newspaper
Looking for new writers

Epsilon Pi Alpha Fraternity

A brotherhood of gentleman
Philanthropy with MS Society of America

Elders

Building a community relationship with students and elders in the community

One on one connections with elders and students

Building Bridges

Knowledge is Power Dismantling Systematic Bias in Educational Institutions
March 5th

Cru

Caring community passionate about connecting people to Jesus Christ

Bible study every Thursday and missions during winter and summer breaks

Big Hill Farm

Micro-farm educating students on sustainable agriculture
Now taking internship applications for summer interns

Fly Fishing Club

An easy and inexpensive way to try fly fishing
Come try it out!

Sunday Worship Community

A welcoming place to worship God and eat snacks
Sundays at 6:30

Prepare

Bible study-How to apply the bible to your life
Wednesdays in Beck 211 7:30-8:30

Equestrian Team

Hang out with people and pet horses
A competitive equestrian team

Pre-Health Club

A place for Pre-med and Pre-PA students to learn and network
Prepare for a future career in the healthcare field

Delight Ministries

All women's bible study
Meets once a week to study a book of the bible

Ducks Unlimited

Apart of the national non-profit organization
Work to conserve wetlands

Gustavus Mentoring Program

A part of Career Development

Contact Andrew Coston at acoston@gustavus.edu for more information

Jazz Club

For both musicians and people who enjoy listening to jazz
Listening parties, jam sessions and trips to watch jazz musicians live

LineUs Improv

A comedy improv group

Auditions March 15th

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Promotes positive masculinity
"We're pretty cool I think"-Ace

Casino SNL March 5th-Come meet the guys

Game Club

Play board games and hang out
Tuesdays and Saturdays 6:30-8:30pm in Campus Center conference room

Tri-Sigma

Adorable social community
Works with The Robbie Page Memorial Fund and March of Dimes

Run Club

"We run for fun"

Theta Xi Gamma

Works with the Pinkie Swear Foundation

Rugby (Mens & Women's)

Learn to play rugby. Men's team restarting now,
Women's team stayed active throughout COVID

The Radicals

Activist club with an artistic community
Painted pillars and made coloring sheets for Black History Month

OLAS

Organization for Latinx American Students
Promotes Latinx countries and diversity. Meets Thursdays 7-8pm in Beck 117

Model U.N.

Roleplays as countries or characters to try and solve issues
Recently did the Chicago event

PASO

Pan-African Student Organization
Everyone is welcome to come to Africa Night on March 11th from 6-8:30pm in Alumni

Chess Club

We play chess
Mondays 6-7:30pm and Thursdays 7:30-9pm in the Courtyard

GWIL

Gustavus Women in Leadership
Focused on career development. Connects students to alumni

Rise

New to campus last year
Respect, Indiginous, Societies, Everywhere

Korean Culture Club

A community exploring Korean culture, food and film
Movie nights with ramen and snacks



International Cultures Club

Working to plan the first international festival since COVID
Meeting on Wednesdays at 7:30pm in Anderson 214

Asian Student Union

A space for all students to learn about Asian cultures
Snacks and activities

Hmong American Cultural Outreach(HACO)

Learn about Hmong culture, language, and heritage
Reflections in the Water Gala March 12th 8-11pm. Free for all

Student Senate

Student government that helps pass bills to improve student life
Looking for new senators

Ignite

Women's leadership group
Working to support political activism and under-represented woman

Student Educators Association

Career development for future educators
Meets every other Tuesday in Anderson 214

Gustavus Cheer

Cheer for Gustavus football and basketball
All genders are welcome and no experience is required

A Moment of Magic

Cosplay and help cheer up medically vulnerable children
Email amomevents@gustavus@gmail.com for more information

Adoptee Recognition Committee(ARC)

Bridging the gap between adoptees and non-adoptees
Working with the PA's to host events during adoptee week

American Cancer Society

Part of the national organization
Relay for Life April 22nd 6pm-12am

Pre-PT/OT Club

Career development for future PT's and OT's
Contact Kendall Harvey for more information

Peer Assistance(PA's)

Wellbeing programing and events
Contact paelist@gustavus.edu for more information

Dungeons and Dragons Club

All are welcome from beginners to experts
Tabletop RPG

Woman in STEM

Empowering Woman and Gender nonconforming people in STEM
Bi-Weekly meeting on Tuesdays starting March 8th 7:30-8:30 in Nobel 3300

Environmental Action Coalition

Works to support environmental sustainability on campus
Discuss national and international topics

CAB(Campus Activity Board)

Hosts events, giveaways, and speakers
Hydro Flask Plinko March 3rd 11:30am-1:30pm

Swing Dancing Club

Social dances
Mostly swing and partnered dances but not always

Whittling Club

Learn how to whittle
Fun, social, and creative activity

Put your pants on, please



Jonas Doerr
Opinion Columnist

I had some strict rules at my high school, long ago as it seemed. Believe it or not, we had to wear pants with belts every day to school. Once in a while, we would have a special event - Sweatpants Thursday! Of course, this luxury wasn't free. We had to donate a couple dollars to a fundraising organization to get a sweatpants pass. Imagine my shock when I got to college and people could wear sweatpants every day! There were sweatpants for studying, sweatpants in the

Caf, and sweatpants in class. I hadn't seen such wild dressing at school since my homeschool days when I wore pajamas to school. Everywhere I looked, I saw someone wearing sweatpants. It's clear Gusties take their rights seriously: freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and freedom of wearing whatever dang pants you want. They have plenty of good reasons to, too.

Sweatpants are comfortable. The loose, soft cotton sometimes feels like a cloud has enveloped the lower half of your body. Nobody ever said, "Time to relax! Let me put on my tightest pair of jeans!" If you want to be comfortable, you wear sweatpants. Sweatpants are also easy to put on. There's no belt, they're loose, and they're often sitting on the top of your drawer. It doesn't take much thought to put on sweatpants in the morning. In fact, if you're so inclined, you can wear them to bed so that you don't have to change in the morning. Unlike other pants, you can

move around easily in sweatpants, especially if the urge to do yoga randomly strikes. If Gus the Lion ever turns feral, it would be a lot easier to run in sweatpants than in dress pants. Even with all these benefits, I think sweatpants are not the best option. There's some significant downsides to all that comfort.

"There were sweatpants for studying, sweatpants in the Caf, and sweatpants in class. I hadn't seen such wild dressing at school since my homeschool days when I wore pajamas to school. Everywhere I looked, I saw someone wearing sweatpants."

"If Gus the Lion ever turns feral, it would be a lot easier to run in sweatpants than in dress pants."

Just like eating ice cream too much can make you physically sick, wearing sweatpants too much can make you socially sick. First of all, you don't look as good when you wear sweatpants. Even if you haven't skipped leg day in three years, jeans, khakis, or chinos will do you some good. Other people will notice the effort you put into wearing some fancy pants, and that reflects well on your appearance. Cultural conventions right now dictate that people wear pants to important events. While things may be changing thanks to virtual meetings, most people would give me a funny look if I went to an interview in sweats. In fact, many workplaces nowadays do not permit their workers to wear

casual pants. Since you will eventually have to adjust anyways, it makes sense to get used to dressing up now. While business attire at school might be strange for most college students, forgoing sweatpants now will make it easier to live without them later. If you treat sweatpants like a special treat, then you will enjoy the moments you spend with them even more. When we wear sweatpants every day, we stop appreciating how amazing they feel. Wearing them becomes something to look forward to. It could even become a coping mechanism for stress - instead of thinking about the Mt. Everest of homework piling up, think about the next precious time you'll spend with your sweatpants.

"If you treat sweatpants like a special treat, then you will enjoy the moments you spend with them even more. When we wear sweatpants every day, we stop appreciating how amazing they feel."

Sweatpants also affect the vibe on campus. It's normal to see sweatpants in the Lund Center; that's why they're named sweatpants, after all. On the other hand, seeing sweatpants in my classes makes it feel like a sofa away from being my neighbor's living room. I don't want to be in my neighbor's living room; it is neither conducive to learning nor a place I am comfortable in. I can only conclude that other people know their neighbors a lot better than I do since they appear so comfortable with it. It actually has been shown that dressing for success is a real thing. Wearing nicer pants will help Gusties do better in their classes and in their social lives. On a smaller scale, it could help convince the Caf workers to toss another scoop on your plate. Looking better causes everyone else to have a better first impression of you, which has countless benefits. While there's nothing wrong with wearing sweatpants, there are plenty of reasons why it might be time for a trouser upgrade. Putting on some nicer pants will help you to become accustomed to a future work environment, help you look better, and maybe even make you less stressed. Don't sweat it if you're not ready to make the change, but you'll miss out on all the benefits participants will get. If we work together, we can look forward to a better future at Gustavus with fancy pants for all.



Pair of sweatpants.

Submitted

The new Batman movie sucks already



Clare Greeman
Robert Pattinson Hater/
Expert

Despite not being that big of a Batman fan, I know far too much than I wish to about the character, its adaptation history, and the new 2022 Batman movie starring Robert Pattinson, making me qualified to air my grievances. My problem lies threefold: in the casting of Robert Pattinson, the projected plot, and how this film fits into the larger problems of Hollywood.

Just like Batman, I know far too much about Robert Pattinson given that I despise him. I remember, for one, hearing his protestations to work out for the role and scoffing at it. I'm all for breaking down Hollywood's beauty standards, where refusing to build up bulk to fit into a certain archetype might be sparking an important conversation, but I found the whole thing to be very hollow. He was not taking a stand when he refused to work out for the role; not only is this a double standard as Pattinson watched his 16 year old costar Taylor Lautner gain 30 pounds of muscle in between the 3 months it took Twilight to wrap and New Moon to begin shooting, but he also stood by as his then-girlfriend Kristen Stewart lose extensive amounts of weight for the end of Breaking Dawn pt. 1. Gaining muscle shows dedication to the role, and trying to portray a completely human vigilante that relies on his own fighting prowess is almost impossible as a man who cooks pasta in the microwave and eats it with copious amounts of sugar (if you doubt me, look it up) and could take someone out of the film.

Pattinson has traditionally played, and has always wanted, to play indie roles; his breakout role as Edward should've been just that, a role in a small production that would be seen by few. His harsh thrust into the spotlight via Twilight would be torture for anyone but especially someone who abhorred it in the first place. And indeed, after the Twilight Saga, he retreated into venerable indie productions like Good Time and The Childhood of a Leader, productions where he was highly praised for his performance.

I can only imagine that just like his other mainstream roles, like 4/5ths of the Twilight films,

his performance will be lackluster. I'm just hoping that he worked with a vocal coach when it came to replicating Batman's gravelly voice rather than winging it with his parody-like and over-the-top performances in The King and the Devil All the Time. If he does decide to turn it on for this role, what will he be turning on exactly?

"I'm all for breaking down Hollywood's beauty standards, where refusing to build up bulk to fit into a certain archetype might be sparking an important conversation, but I found the whole thing to be very hollow. He was not taking a stand when he refused to work out for the role."

The unfeeling Dark Knight doesn't have a lot to show in the way of emotions other than angry, brooding, and dead inside. And how will it compare to the rest of the star studded cast?

I was particularly excited for the casting of Zoë Kravitz as Catwoman and Paul Dano as the Riddler respectively. In addition to these, Colin Farrell, Jefferey Wright, John Turturro, and Andy Serkis are all slated to play large roles in the film. Perplexingly, four of the six actors I just mentioned are playing villains in the Batman canon which leads into my next problem: too many cooks in the kitchen. How will the film manage to handle the story lines of a potential four villains? I am exceedingly skeptical about the villainy that the Riddler is slated to bring as the "main villain" of the movie, when he hasn't been a "main villain" in recently comic book memory, or how Colin Farrell, as the Penguin, will manage to act under that fat chin strap.

And finally, I hope that set-up sounded familiar to you, because it sounded familiar to me. How many recent movies can you think of that feature many



Batman logo.

Submitted

villains? How many recent superhero movies can you think of? I can. In fact I first saw the new Batman trailer while I was in the theater to see that very same movie. Spiderman: No Way Home follows in the tradition of past Spiderman movies where they have featured many villains, top loading the movie with an incredible amount of action and many moving parts that if done wrong, could gloss over necessary character development and leave the audience feeling fatigued.

The many villains have been done, many times over. The characters have been done before, and the remakes complaint has been heard time and time before but that doesn't mean that it doesn't bear repeating. I can only imagine that they pitched this movie as a new, darker Batman, and everyone being pitched to had short-term memory loss.

I'm not trying to yuck anyo-

nes yum, instead I hope that you enjoy the new Batman movie in my stead. I only ask that when you watch this movie, you think about what the filmmakers were trying to accomplish. Are you seeing anything new? Did they add anything to the Batman canon that was missing, besides Paul Dano?

"Did they add anything to the Batman canon that was missing, besides Paul Dano?"

Do you see any value in it as the third Batman live action launch of the 2000's? Or could you just as soon have watched the Nolan trilogy, or any other superhero movie to date and have found something just as good, if not better?



Batman.

Submitted

What does past Gustavian Weekly copy editor Aaron Albani have to say about Batman media long past?

"I was worried that the final batman film wouldn't hold up to its predecessors, but it has... This film digs deeper in to the character of Bruce Wayne and his past as well as his future... I bestow 5 stars onto this film."

Aaron Albani (The Dark Knight Rises to the climax of Nolan's Trilogy) November 9th 2012

Write more letters



David Eide
Opinion Columnist

Personally, I think there's something magical about receiving letters. Now I don't mean bills or the other kinds of automated mail that so clutter mailboxes these days. I mean a letter that was handwritten, sealed, stamped, and traveled potentially hundreds of miles and passed through who knows how many hands in order to end up at your door. I didn't fully realize how wonderful letters could be until I recently started writing and sending them off myself; what started as a one-off quickly grew into a hobby that I'm enjoying more and more every week. I really think that the vast majority of people would find some enjoyment in letter

writing, so it's quite a shame to see that it's essentially a dying art these days.

Of course some people will argue that letter writing should be a dying art, after all hasn't email essentially rendered 'snail mail' obsolete? There is some validity to this point. However, to me, the appeal of letter writing goes beyond the simple binary of convenient or inconvenient. Emails are an entirely ephemeral medium; they can be typed up incredibly easily and can be disposed of just as easily.

Furthermore, the fact that emails don't actually have a physical existence of their own and instead rely on devices for display which has the effect of making emails a much less meaningful form of communication. While I appreciate emails for professional communication with people who I may not know very well, for general interpersonal communication they come up lacking.

In comparison, letters are a much better form of remote interpersonal communication. For one, the fact that a letter usually has to be handwritten forces a certain amount of effort upon the sender which means more personality usually shines through. The tactile nature of letters is another facet of letters that I find

appealing, it's one thing to communicate by email which are basically just words on a screen and another to be able to hold the communication in your own hands. Letters also carry with them a sense of mystery and surprise that you don't really get from emails.

Generally, you don't know when a letter you send will be received and on the other hand the recipient often doesn't know that a letter has been sent, so in a sense, both parties will be surprised in a way. Of course, there is also the surprise of actually finding out what has been written in the letter which you don't often get with emails since those usually have text previews. There is a level of anticipation that comes with opening a letter that is simply not present when it comes to emails. Overall, I think letters have a distinct advantage over emails just in terms of pure aesthetics.

In a deeper sense I also think that letters allow our true selves to shine through much more than email does. This might just be specific to me, but I've found that when I write emails my personality often comes across as overly stilted and polished. This is perhaps due to the fact that if I have second thoughts, I can simply delete the word and retype

the phrase. This option is much more difficult with letters, of course you could erase or cross out the offending words but that leaves a very distinct trace that almost defeats the point of changing it in the first place. You could also choose to keep buying new cards to start over with but that seems like it would begin to strain your wallet fairly quickly. I've always felt that the letters I write capture who I am much better than emails, partially because I don't try to make them as efficient as possible, simply allowing my thoughts to flow forth onto the card.

Another reason I have come to appreciate writing and sending letters is the lengthy journey they can often go through. I have sent letters across Minnesota, to Arkansas, and even as far as California and yet they all still arrived within a week or two. The idea that an intercontinental odyssey is undergone by my mail every time I want to say 'hello' to one of my distant relatives or wish someone 'happy birthday' is very impressive in my opinion.

I love how letters tie us together, creating a network across the continent that enabled a sense of interconnectedness long before the internet made such a thing a triviality. In a sense, ev-

ery time I send a letter, I am following in a tradition that stretches back to when congress first authorized the institution of a postal system in the 1st article of the Constitution.

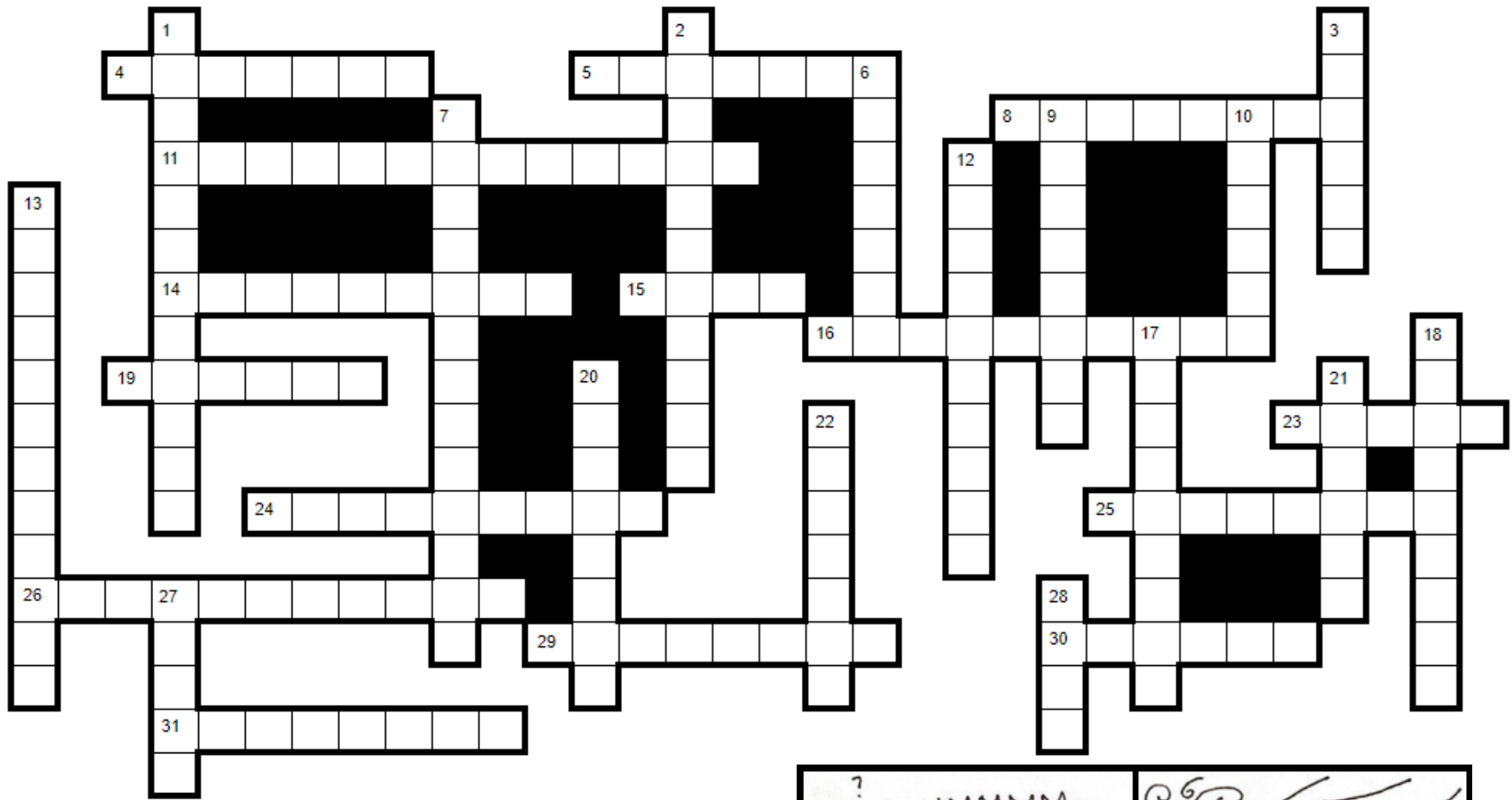
Of course, none of this would be possible without the work of the United States Postal Service which works very hard to ensure that the mail gets where it's supposed to go. It is unfortunate that the postal service has suffered from budget shortfalls and other misfortunes due to some new policies by Congress. Luckily, action has finally been taken to alleviate the struggles of the USPS, advancing forth the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022 which greatly reforms the organization's finances and operations to hopefully keep it solvent for years to come.

It is good that Congress is finally paying more attention to the USPS as it is a crucial part of our country's heritage and enables many of the positives towards letter writing that I have described throughout the rest of this article. The hardworking men and women of the US Postal Service deserve our support and I am glad that we are capable of coming together to do so. I love to write and to send letters, and hopefully this article has convinced you to give it a shot as well.



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Dumb, Random, and Useless State Laws
In the state of _____, it is illegal...

ACROSS

- 4. ...to use profanity in front of a corpse
- 5. ...to sing in public while wearing a bathing suit
- 8. ...to hunt on Sundays (unless you're hunting raccoons)
- 11. ...to sing off-key
- 14. ...to wrestle a bear
- 15. ...to not to drink milk
- 16. ...to cry on the witness stand
- 19. ...to hunt whales. This state is landlocked, by the way.
- 23. ...to place an advertisement in a cemetery
- 24. ...to cross state lines with a duck on your head
- 26. ...to lie down and fall asleep with shoes on
- 29. ...to eavesdrop
- 30. ...to hold a wedding ceremony at an ice skating rink
- 31. ...to keep an alligator in a bathtub

DOWN

- 1. ...to sleep on top of a refrigerator outdoors
- 2. ...to call a pickle a pickle if it doesn't bounce
- 3. ...to push a live moose out of a moving airplane
- 6. ...to hunt camels
- 7. ...to put tomatoes in clam chowder
- 9. ...to eat in a place that is actively on fire
- 10. ...to drive a camel on a highway
- 12. ...to harass Bigfoot
- 13. ...for chickens to lay eggs before 8 AM or after 4 PM
- 17. ...to wear a bulletproof vest while committing murder
- 18. ...to catch a fish using a lasso
- 20. ...to dye a duckling blue and then put it up for sale (unless there are more than six ducklings for sale)
- 21. ...to place coins in your ears
- 22. ...to have an ice cream cone in your back pocket
- 27. ...to milk someone else's cow
- 28. ...for a man with a mustache to kiss a woman in public



Movies from Swank: *The Matrix*
Will Sorg

The Matrix is arguably one of the most culturally influential films of the 90s. From the often-parodied bullet dodging sequence to the right-wing appropriation of the symbolism of red and blue pills that give the choice of staying in the Matrix or waking up, this is a film that has created innumerable discussions and quite literally changed the way blockbusters were made. However, for me and many others, this film has taken on a new life as a story of queer self-actualization. The directors, the Wachowski Sisters, are both trans women and Lilly Wachowski herself has said that the film is a trans allegory.

The story of Neo takes place in an oppressive system. The Matrix is a prison, a virtual dystopia that reflects our own world in how it breaks down people in crushing monotony and a gloom of depersonalization. Neo and those who work with him are able to break through this by reclaiming their identity. Neo, formerly Thomas Anderson, changes his name and when he first escapes from the Matrix he is metaphorically born again as a new person as he is pulled from his containment pod. Over time, Neo learns to embrace his new identity and by doing so he gains confidence in himself as well as overwhelming power. In the Matrix, becoming comfortable in your own identity manifests into literal superpowers. This gives the film some truly remarkable action sequences, but it is also a beautiful representation of the power that acceptance and security is so powerful for people in the LGBT+ community.

The main goal of *The Matrix* is to tell its audience the importance of rebellion and creativity. The world is not what it seems, it is beyond binaries, it is beyond conventions. The antagonistic agents in the film and the reactionary traditionalists who try to restrict the rights of others in the real world are both afraid of the same thing, they are afraid of people reclaiming their identity and removing the power structures that have oppressed them. As Neo himself says in the film, "You're afraid of us. You're afraid of change." The Wachowski Sisters' film asserts that we have agency, that we are capable of great things through collective action and that love and self expression are some of the most powerful things that exist in this world. *The Matrix* is the beauty of queerness, the beauty of humanity and the beauty of the individual wrapped into one of the slickest action/sci-fi films ever made. Check it out if you haven't already. You won't regret it.

WHAT IS SWANK?

Swank is a free streaming service provided through the Campus Activities Board here at Gustavus. It contains a wide array of well over 100 movies, many of which are not found on Netflix or Hulu, and is completely legal. Access it by going to www.gustavus.edu/moviestreaming

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Gusties win MIAC regular season title

Women's hockey celebrates its seniors, prepares for playoffs

Luke Siegle
Staff Writer

Over the weekend the Gustavus Women's Hockey team locked up the regular season MIAC crown with a pair of wins over the St. Scholastica Saints. A 3-2 overtime victory last Thursday gave the Gusties the number one seed and home ice throughout the MIAC playoffs. On Saturday, the Gusties completed their regular season on a high note by shutting out Scholastica 3-0 to end their regular season with a record of 19-3-2. The shutout, which occurred on the team's Senior Night, gave them 14 on the season which leads the country and is also a program record.

To claim the MIAC regular-season crown the Gusties needed to beat St. Scholastica once. Facing Scholastica on the road in game one, the Gusties fell behind quickly as the Saints scored 1:35 seconds into the first period to take the lead. The Gusties responded though as Junior Molly McHugh found the back of the net on the power-play at the 6:54 mark for her 7th goal on the season. The goal was assisted by Senior captain Tina Press and Junior Hailey Holland. The score stayed knotted up through one. In the second period, although the Gusties outshot the Saints 26-4 both teams scored one goal each to make the score 2-2 going into the final period.

For the Gusties, it was Senior captain Kayla Vrieze scoring her third goal of the season 5:27 into the second period. On the assist was Sophomore forward Brooke Power. The Saints got their goal a couple of minutes later to tie up the score. In the third, neither team could



The women's hockey seniors pose with their team's MIAC regular season championship plaque.

Gustavus Sports Information

find the net. The Gusties, once again, outshot the Saints by more than two to one but had nothing to show for it. When the final buzzer sounded the score was still 2-2 meaning there would be overtime hockey. In overtime, the Gusties outshot the Saints yet again, and this time had something to show for it.

Power found the back of the net for her 17th goal on the season and with it, the Gusties earned the top seed going

into the playoffs. "It was a really tough game, but one of the best. The win felt worth it and after the game we celebrated and it was very energetic, but during the game it was very intense. Once it happened though it was a very exciting moment for us," Senior Gabby Slykas said after the game.

In the second game of the series against the Saints, the Gusties concluded their season with another victory and another shutout. It was an espe-

cially sweet win given the fact that it was Senior Day. After each team went scoreless in the first period, Senior Jamie Byrne scored her first goal of the season 8:56 into the second. Senior defender Jordyn Peterson was credited with her 6th assist of the year. Later in the second Junior Clara Billings recorded her fifth goal of the season on the power-play to put the Gusties up 2-0 after two periods of play.

Junior Lindsey Bjerke was rewarded with her second assist on the season. In the third, Power increased the lead to 3-0 with her MIAC leading 18th goal on the season. Junior Emily Olson chipped in for the assist, her 13th of the season. 3-0 was where the score would remain and with it, the Gusties finished on a high note to end the season. Both goalies, Junior Katie McCoy and First-year Maria Widen, shined as they led Gustavus to the shut-out.

Together they stopped all 13 of the Saint's shots. "It's been really cool to see Maria develop. She has gotten so much better over the season. We work really well together and have good chemistry," McCoy said when talking about the goalies relationship. The two goalies level of play has not only affected each other, but also the other players on the team. "It's amazing. It's our goalies all the way. It challenges the rest of us to stay strong and play our game," Slykas said.

With the regular season in the books the Gusties will now look towards the MIAC post-season. They will face the win-

ner of St. Kate's v Concordia this Saturday at Don Roberts Ice Rink. With that on the horizon the teams mindset will continue to remain the same. "We want to continue to have fun as a team. Keep our relationships building and growing because that makes us work well on the ice together. We want to keep our intensity and desire to keep growing as a team," Slykas said.

"We want to continue to have fun as a team. Keep our relationships building... because that makes us work well on the ice together. We want to keep our intensity as a team."

Another big advantage for the Gusties is that they will spend the entirety of the playoffs at home. "It's a great confidence booster, really looking forward to having games at home rather than having to travel. We seem to play a lot better at home than away," McCoy said. On Saturday, the team will take their first step on a hopefully long playoff journey that will take them beyond the MIAC playoffs, but for this team their mindset won't change: have fun and take it one day at a time.



Brooke Power skates down the ice with a St. Scholastica defender hot on her heels.

Gustavus Sports Information

Women's swim & dive has a strong finish

Team places second in MIAC conference meet

Allison Fajt
Staff Writer

The women's swim team took second place at the MIAC conference meet this weekend at the University of Minnesota's Jean K. Aquatics Center. While St. Kate's took first place, it was still a successful event because so many of the Gusties qualified for Nationals. The women's team accumulated 714 points at the end of the meet, only 95 points behind St. Kate's.

"We went in with the goal that we wanted to do our very best and of course try to win our conference. Everyone swam super well; we tapered so our times would improve from our normal season and on both the women's and men's sides everyone just did spectacular," First-year Mikalya Witte said.

The team was able to compete fiercely as well as have a good time throughout the meet making sure they each swam their best by the end of the event. The women always made sure to make each other feel a part of a team even while swimming individually.

"It was a super fun meet, it was I think the most fun meet I have ever been to. The atmosphere was so amazing and electric because since not all of the team was swimming at it they all came to cheer and we had about like three times as many fans and teammates in the stands as any other team and it was just the best atmosphere I've ever seen at a meet," Sophomore Lucy Peterson said.

The Gusties stayed energetic throughout the entire weekend and constantly cheered each other on. The team was very pleased with their performances and their teammate's throughout the weekend. "The atmosphere of the meet was un-



Gustie superfans make their presence known at the conference meet.

Lillie Ortloff

believable and that's definitely what made it so fun and how everyone was able to swim so successfully just because all of our teammates were there to support us," Peterson said.

"We competed very well. All of our swimmers, girls and guys, I'd say at least got one personal best time throughout the four day meet and that's pretty inspiring to see because when that many people get best times it just shows how

good of a team we are and even though our times were already fast before we just got faster," Junior Ellen Hofstede said.

The swimmers did well in many events; they placed third in the 200 Yard Medley Relay with Witte, Sophomore Leah Soukup, Hofstede, and Peterson. A team made up of Witte, First-year Allison Gilles, Junior Annika Jones, and First-year Marit Isaacson also placed third in their relay event the

800 Yard Freestyle.

Unfortunately the season has ended for those who didn't compete at the MIAC or qualify for nationals yet, they still get to look forward to next year's season as well as cheering their teammates on at nationals.

"I am looking forward to, well it's going to be super cool when we get our new freshman in too so I'm excited for that and since I had to go through that myself I can help others

and also I'm just super excited to see where the team goes again next year," Witte said.

"Personally I did really awesome. I got personal bests in all of my events. I'm currently third in the 100 free nationally and 11th in the 50 free so that's pretty cool. My relay is 5th in the nation right now which is super awesome so I'm very excited for nationals," Hofstede said.

Hofstede qualified for multiple events at nationals and other Gusties who also qualified for nationals were a relay team including Hofstede, Junior Abby Yartz, Isaacson and Peterson. As well as Sophomore Kaja Pratt and Sophomore Emmalyn Dickerson for diving.

"I'd say the goal for the 200 free relay probably would be to stay in that top 8 final which would be really cool and for my individuals I'd like to get top 8 in the 1500 and possibly win the 100 but I'm not gonna push it on that and the 200 free would be my bonus event so hoping to get in the top 16 for that," Hofstede said.

The qualifiers will have plenty of time to practice and prepare for their meet at the National Championship in March at the IU Natatorium in Indianapolis, Indiana.



A Gustie swimmer cuts through the water using the breaststroke.

MIAC Information



The Gustie's 200 Free Relay team stand on the podium following their first place finish.

Gustavus Swim and Dive
Instagram

Men's swim & dive makes it three in a row

Team looks to build their dynasty into the future

Brady Boie
Staff Writer

The Gustavus Men's Swimming and Diving team enjoyed a victory at the MIAC Championships. This win satiated the Gusties' inability to compete in a championship meet in the spring of 2021 and completed a dynasty in the making, as the men claimed the conference title for the third consecutive season.

"It was good to assert ourselves in the MIAC this year with not being able to swim last year. It was really good to show how dominant Gustavus swimming is," Junior swimmer Andrew Becker said.

"It was good to assert ourselves in the MIAC... It was really good to show how dominant Gustavus swimming is."

The avalanche began from the opening gun, as the Gustie team of Junior Dane Hudson, Sophomore Peyton Richardson, Sophomore Kieran Ripken, and Becker took down the heavily-favored Johnnies in the 200 Medley relay.

The Gusties' blazing relay time of 1:31.52 gave them a new school record and put them in consideration for the NCAA meet. The Gusties carried this momentum through the rest of the night, as the 800 Freestyle relay team comprised of Richardson, Junior Erik Small, Senior Eamonn McCollough,



The Gusties pose with their MIAC Championship plaque following the conference meet.

Gustavus Sports Information

and Sophomore Matt Strom touched the wall seven seconds ahead of any other team with a time of 6:48.17.

The dominance from day one carried over. A Gustie swimmer or relay team won every event on the second day. Strom battled St. Olaf swimmer and former conference champion Timothy Rizzo in the 500 Freestyle, ousting the highly-touted swimmer by seven-hundredths of a second. Once Strom took

down Rizzo, he knew that he was going to have a great meet.

"That really helped me get in that (great) mindset for the rest of the week," Strom said.

The winning didn't stop there, as Small and Richardson took the top 2 podium spots in the 200 Individual Medley. Becker and Ripken followed suit, going 1-2 in the 50 free, as both swimmers dipped below 20.60 seconds. The night concluded with another ex-

cellent performance from the relay team of Hudson, Ripken, Richardson, and Becker. The 400 Medley relay team finished with a winning time of 3:22.00 seconds.

On day three, Richardson started the day off right with an impressive victory in the 400 Individual Medley. Not to be outdone, Hudson ousted his teammate Becker in the 100 Butterfly. Hudson would later add to the medal count with a second-place finish in the 100 Backstroke, but the story of the night revolved around the podium sweeps in both the 200 Freestyle and the 100 Breaststroke. Strom placed first in the 200 Freestyle with a time of 1:39.99, followed closely by teammates Small and Senior swimmer Dutch Franko-Dynes.

"I was super happy with that race (the 200 free)... my freshman year we were top four... to be able to carry it through and get top three this year was good to keep that tradition going," Small said.

First-year Nyden Hill took first in the 100 breaststroke, out-touching Ripken and Junior Taylor Vander-Jeugd and winning with a time of 57.30. The night was ended by a record-breaking 200 Freestyle relay that included Hudson, Small, Ripken, and Becker. Their scorching 1:21.53 gave them an NCAA B-Cut and fell under the 2019 consideration time.

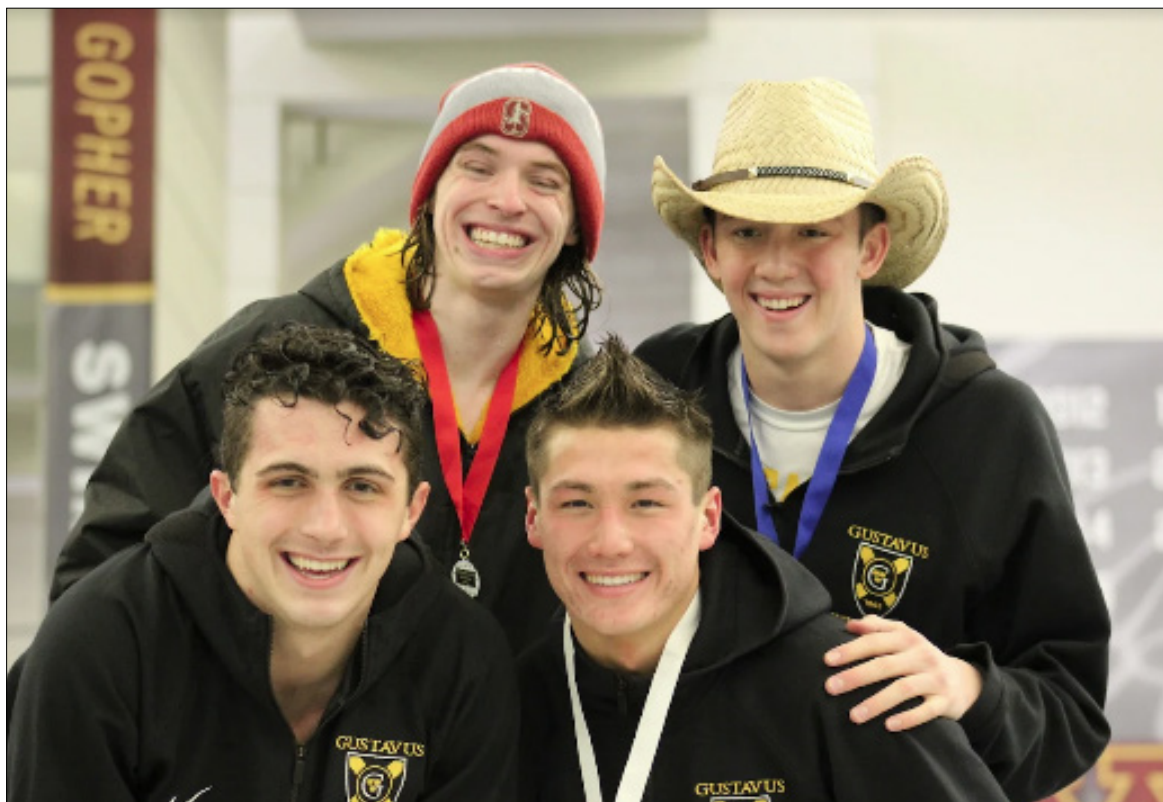
On the final day, the Gusties continued to put their pedals to the metal. Strom won the mile

with an NCAA B-Cut worthy time of 15:47.27. This impressive performance completed the freestyle "Triple Crown" and earned Strom the honor of MIAC Men's Swimmer of the Year.

"Matt is a fantastic swimmer. He was the only guy at the meet that won all three of his individual events... what's most impressive is how he can will himself to the win. If there is someone within range of him at the end of the race, he will find a way to pull ahead and beat them," Small said.

Another notable performance from Saturday was a new school record in the 100 Freestyle. Becker broke through with a time of 44.66, winning by over a second and a half. Hill claimed his spot as king of the breaststroke hill, touching first in the 200 Breaststroke with a time of 2:05.80. His performance was followed up by fellow First-year Jonathan Cordano, who squeaked by Small to win the 200 Butterfly. The winning 400 Freestyle relay team of Becker, Ripken, Hudson, and Franko-Dynes put the exclamation mark on an overwhelming championship performance by the Gusties.

"We have a fantastic team... we are losing a good senior class but we have such a strong team... I know next year that we will be able to continue our dynasty," Small said.



Gusties on the podium for the 200 yard breaststroke - an event the team swept 1st through 4th place.

Lillie Orloff